GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4894
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2001
VARIETIES OF RICE AND POTATO
PATY RIPPLE KYNDIAH

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the present activities of Indian Council of Agriculture Research situated in Meghalaya;

(b) whether any research has been conducted to develop high breed varieties of rice and potato suitable for high altitude region;

(c) the number of officers and other subordinate staff, with brake-up, working there;

(d) the area of land occupied by I.C.A.R. for farm area and residential area; and

(e) the altitude of the Research Centre and the amount of rainfall in the area occupied by ICAR?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) Indian Council of Agricultural Research established ICAR Research Complex for the North East Hill Region at Umiam in Meghalaya in 1975. This institute encompasses all the disciplines of agriculture, horticulture, animal sciences, agricultural engineering, agroforestry and fishery to cater to agricultural research needs of the tribal areas of N.E.H. Region, including Sikkim.

(b) Yes, Sir. Two rice varieties namely NEH Megha Rice 1 and NEH Megha Rice 2 were released for high altitude (>1500m) area. These varieties have an average yield of 30 q/ha and cover more than 50 per cent of the area under rice. Potato varieties, Kufri, Jyoti, Kufri Megha and Kufri Giriraj have been developed and released for cultivation in NEH Region including Meghalaya.

(c)

Category	Sanctioned	Filled	Vacant
A. R.M.P	2	1	1
B. Scientific	90	76	14
C. Technical	132	113	19
D. Administrative	89	67	20
E. Supporting	68	67	1

(d) The total farm area of the institute at Umiam is 101 ha and 20 ha of the farm land area is under residence, office, laboratory, stores etc.

(e) Altitude : 980 - 1080 m above msl
Rainfall : mean around 2,400 mm/annum